

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



Staff Workshop on Interim Performance Approach for ARRA Residential Retrofit Programs

The California Energy Commission staff will hold a workshop to discuss staff's proposed Interim Performance Approach for determining energy savings from residential retrofits that are completed in programs funded through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) contracts with the Energy Commission. The Interim Performance Approach is proposed as an option that will be available for the roll-out period for the California Home Energy Rating System Phase II (HERS II) whole-house home energy audits/ratings. Commissioners may also attend and participate.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2010

10 a.m.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street

First Floor, Hearing Room A

Sacramento, California

(Wheelchair Accessible)

Purpose

This workshop will inform stakeholders of the Energy Commission's proposed Interim Performance Approach and its relationship to the rollout of HERS II energy audits/ratings for the ARRA funded residential retrofit programs under contracts with the Energy Commission. Energy Commission staff will discuss the requirements of the proposed Interim Performance Approach, the comparison of the Interim Performance Approach for calculating energy savings with the process for HERS II energy audits/ratings, and the preparations that are underway for contractor and rater training. The staff will seek input from stakeholders and address questions.

Background

The Energy Commission adopted revised regulations for the California Home Energy Rating System Program in December 2008. Those regulations went into effect as California law on September 1, 2009. In addition to making modifications related to the existing HERS Program, the regulations established requirements for whole-house home energy audits and ratings. (See 20 California Code of Regulations, Section 1670, et.seq.)

In 2009, the Energy Commission, in response to extensive public comment, decided to allocate up to \$110 million of ARRA State Energy Program (SEP) funding to pursue three program initiatives to achieve a large number of retrofits in existing buildings. Guidelines for these programs were released in July 2009, and after several public workshops and written comments, were adopted by the Commission on September 30, 2009.

Two of those programs, the Comprehensive Residential Retrofit Program and the Municipal Financing Program, target retrofits in the residential sector through regional programs. The Comprehensive Residential Retrofit Program encourages regional programs that will aggressively transition to “third tier” whole-house retrofits using HERS II energy audits/ratings. The Municipal Financing Program (municipal financing is also referred to as Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing) encourages regional programs that provide financing for home retrofits consistent with the Comprehensive Residential Retrofit Program. The Guidelines for the Municipal Financing Program established “loading order” requirements that call for 10 percent reduction in the total energy consumption for a building as a condition to financing onsite renewables on that building. The Guidelines require that when HERS II is available in a region, that 10 percent reduction must be determined using the HERS II index. The Energy Commission may approve other methods for determining the 10 percent reduction.

The Energy Commission released solicitations for the ARRA SEP retrofit programs on October 8, 2009, pursuant to the Guidelines. Proposals were submitted on December 21, 2009. The Energy Commission published Notices of Proposed Awards on February 10, 2010, announcing funding of approximately \$50 million for Comprehensive Residential Retrofit Program contracts and approximately \$30 million for Municipal Financing Program contracts. The Commission also is using \$12.9 million of Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funds to establish comprehensive residential retrofit programs in three metropolitan centers of the state. All of these contracts are nearing launch and need to make rapid progress within the tight ARRA time window (all ARRA funding must be spent by March, 2012). The first contracts are expected to start in July and August 2010.

The Energy Commission has been actively working with the three HERS Providers, who have previously been approved for oversight of the California Building Code (Title 24) field verification, to assist them in meeting the training and other requirements for approval for oversight of HERS II whole-house retrofits. Those HERS Providers have made considerable progress towards meeting those requirements, but won't be approved until immediately before or even after contracts must start. While HERS Providers are prepared to roll out training shortly after approval, and provide training for a large number of HERS II raters during the coming six months, the Commission has determined that in addition to the rollout of HERS II, an Interim Performance Approach is necessary to determine energy savings under the contracts.

Workshop Participation

The Energy Commission is seeking the active participation of interested persons in this workshop. Attendees (both in person and remote) are strongly encouraged to participate in discussions.

Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

If you have questions on the technical subject matter of this meeting, please contact Christine Collopy at (916) 654-4899 or CCollopy@energy.state.ca.us.

Remote Attendance

You can participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you listen to the audio via your telephone. Please be aware that the meeting's WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded.

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1. Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number:
923 475 648
2. When prompted, enter your name and other information as directed, and the meeting password: **meeting@10**
3. After you log-in, a prompt will ask for your phone number. If you wish to have WebEx call you back, enter your phone number. This will put add your name on the WebEx log so that we know who is connected and have a record of your participating by WebEx.

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